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FRIENDLY

A D V I C E

TO

EMIGRANTS

FROM

EUROPE,

ON THEIR ARRIVAL IN CANADA.

BY AN OLD COUNTRYMAN.

MONTREAL:

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1834

Friends and Acquaintances

My dear friends and acquaintances,
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, my dear friends, very truly,
Your obedient servant,
J. B. Smith

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Friends and Countrymen.

WE hail your safe arrival in this extensive Province of the British Empire, which, still retaining an ardent affection for our native land, we have adopted for our own Country, and, should the good Providence of God permit, that of our offspring forever.

We congratulate you on the safe passage with which you have been favoured by him who, "holds the winds in his fist and the waters in the hollow of his hand"—and who has graciously protected you amidst all the perils of the deep and the dangers of disease and death.

While we feel happy on account of the safety of your voyage and your arrival in this rich and fertile country,—this land of freedom and of happiness, where sobriety and industry never fail to meet a sure reward; we feel desirous that you may find among us, a home more settled and secure, more free from anxious care, and filled with domestic comfort, than the home which you have left.

And under the influence of this feeling of desire to do you good and to promote your future comfort and prosperity; we have placed together a few hints which may be, if improved, of greater service to you, than at this moment you may apprehend.

We are prompted to do this in a great measure from having ourselves suffered many disadvantages from the want of experience and advice, suited

to the Country, on our first arrival, and we may add also from the painful fact of having seen some of our beloved Countrymen, for want of seasonable advice, on their first coming to the Country totally ruined, and in too many instances, we fear, both in body and in soul.

FIRST,—Beware of forming hasty acquaintances and frequenting unknown company. Without attention to the characters of the persons with whom you become associated, you may find yourselves exposed to all the evils attendant on bad company, before you are aware, and you will either prove by it, that your habits have been heretofore bad, or expose yourself to such temptations as are calculated both to corrupt, and to confirm you in evil habits; and you may rest assured that the more sober and respectable part of mankind, will form their opinion of your character by the company that you keep. “Tell me your company!” says the Spanish proverb, “and I will tell you what you are.”

“He that walketh with wise men shall be wise, but a companion of fools shall be destroyed.”

It has been too often seen that improper company has led to the destruction of a good name—of the prospects of the present life and of the precious soul to all eternity.

If you form acquaintances, let them be of such a description as may improve you in religion, morals and respectability;—in habits of strict sobriety, honesty and diligent industry. And that you may be the more secure against the influence of unsuitable company, let me

SECONDLY,—Recommend to you by all means to guard against discouragement and consequent idleness and loss of precious time. So numerous are the difficulties to be encountered in rooting one's self up from one's own country, and from the society of our dear friends; in arranging our affairs and in surmounting the turmoil of a long voyage; of journeying by sea and by land, that the Emigrant cannot but become weary and often dispirited; and when poverty and sickness are added to fatigue, he becomes a real object of compassion, and even if health be spared, many persons of a melancholy cast of character will be in danger of yielding to despondency and irresolution. Guard against this temptation. Perseverance seldom fails of being crowned with success. In due time you shall reap if you faint not." A little more patient effort will we trust place you in a situation of comparative rest; and diligent attention to your business of accomplishing your object will divert your mind, encourage hope, and tend to preserve you from the fascinations of such company as, at first view, might appear desirable to cheer you amid discouragement, but which in truth may lead you to your ruin.

"In all labour there is profit." Your object in leaving your beloved Country and friends was to find a home for yourself and family. Keep this object in your view and press onward. Use the means with diligence and look to God for his blessing and doubt not of success. Diligence, sobriety and industrious perseverance will preserve you under the Divine Blessing from despondency, bad company and final disappoint-

ment. "The diligent hand maketh rich." In Canada, there is yet very much land to be possessed, and if God shall give you health, nothing but prudence and perseverance will be necessary to insure to you your portion.

Do not neglect cleanliness both as it respects your person and the persons of your family and also your clothes and bedding; that is very important to your health and that of your children and friends—and a *general wash* will be required after a sea voyage, in this warm Country:—Let this be thoroughly attended to, and let the men assist the women in attending to it.

THIRDLY,—*Beware of intemperance in all its forms; not merely of intoxication, but of every step by which men approach to it.* It is not necessary to suppose that you have already acquired the habit of drinking to make this advice needful. Hundreds and perhaps thousands have come to Canada not only with habits of sobriety but abstemiousness, who in a few short years have discovered themselves with surprise to be confirmed, and perhaps incurable drunkards, or at least free drinkers; and free drinking is but one step short of habitual intoxication.

These persons, who would once have said, "Is thy servant a dog that he should do this thing," have been gradually seduced from their former habits and too many have sunk to rise no more.

In this Country ardent spirits are cheap, and the use of them is by far too common. Many persons use them as their common drink and to this many add the cheerful, the friendly and the social

glass ;—and here the *few* may possess sufficient resolution to stop ; but the *many* who possess less of discretion and of resolution, arrived at this point, resemble a ball set in motion at the top of a hill, which cannot be stopped until it reach the bottom : —thus has it been with many an unfortunate and well meaning man, who never dreamt of becoming a drunkard ; and who, could he have foreseen the dreadful end from the beginning would have shuddered at the sight of strong drink as of the most deadly serpent, and would have shunned it forever ; but now it holds him fast in its detested folds, and he cannot escape ; his character, peace, soul, body, and family are doomed to destruction. You are perhaps at present free from the spell of this evil spirit ;—preserve your freedom, abstain altogether from spirituous liquors.—Flee this adversary of human peace and happiness and secure to yourself comfort usefulness, reputation and honor. Attention to this one hint will do much for you. And the important fact that the awful scourge which has visited many nations of the earth, the Cholera Mortalis has found intemperance and personal neglect to be its most powerful auxiliaries, should impress this advice upon the mind. Who would fill his pockets with gunpowder who felt himself every moment in danger of fire ? Forget not that it is from the ranks of drunkards, and of the debauched, the dissipated and the dissolute that this destroying Angel has selected the greater number of his victims.

Should the waters of the River St. Lawrence in some measure disorder you—some officious wise-

acre will probably advise you to have recourse to a little spirits as a corrective. Many have been betrayed by this foolish advice. But when you learn that much of the saleable spirituous liquor is adulterated with some poisonous mixtures; we hope you will resist the temptation, more particularly as the quality of the water may be remedied by infusing into it a little powdered alum; or by drinking it after it is boiled, or when purified by a piece of toasted bread.

FOURTHLY,—*Beware of vanity and extravagance.*
—There are some who are extremely ambitious of making a figure in the world, and that, even amidst the censure of all those who are around them. I have often wondered, that, while persons may have made an appearance of decent respectability with almost universal approbation, they have preferred a display which could not but excite the grief of their friends, the disapprobation of the prudent and the envy of the malignant; and who have moreover brought upon themselves poverty, embarrassment and distress.

Persons who have resolved to leave the Old Country and to come to Canada, generally dispose of all they possess, and bring with them frequently a sum of money, which, if prudently used, would, with industry and the blessing of God, secure to them a comfortable support and a gradual increase of prosperity, who from idleness and incautiousness or the love of display and empty shew, allow the talent to escape them, when to their mortification they discover, that instead of conciliating, they have lost friends, and learn, when it is too late,

the great value of a small sum of money. A hundred or two of pounds, or less, once prudently applied would have procured by this time a comfortable livelihood; but now they are gone forever, and perhaps credit and reputation have followed.—Shew, parade and extravagance, in a Country like this, where we have neither princes nor nobles to emulate, is absurd, and can procure nothing to those who are seduced by them, but poverty, ignominy and contempt.

Some persons, who have brought with them a sufficient sum of money, have determined to place their money in the Bank, and to labour for other farmers for a year or two, in order to make themselves acquainted with the husbandry of the country, and to take an opportunity to purchase to more advantage.

Neatness, cleanliness, industry and economy are precious and invaluable; but finery and shew, in furniture or in dress, are folly.

FIFTHLY,—Beware of indulging in any thing which you would shun, in your own country and among your near friends and relatives. The want of caution in this point has been the cause of ruin to thousands of youth, who, feeling that they were placed beyond the reach and restraint of their friends' salutary observation, have let loose the reins of youthful lusts and passions, and forsaking the habit, which they had pursued under the paternal roof, have turned their backs upon God, his Sabbath and his Sanctuary, and have plunged themselves into a round of dissipation and thoughtless revelery, which has almost for-

bidden the hope that they would ever be brought to remember the God of their fathers.

Nor is this folly and want of caution peculiar to youth ; we have too often seen it exemplified by persons of riper years ; but whatever may be the suggestions of your own heart, or of the adversary of your happiness ; although you feel yourself at present in a land of strangers, yet, you should reflect that, they are as observant, as the friends whom you have left in your native land.

They have the same standard by which to judge of your moral or immoral practices. As a member of society you must be dependent upon their esteem and good opinion.

No circumstances can change the character of vice and folly, and remember that the eyes of the Lord are in every place beholding the evil and the good. Then—"rejoice O young man in thy youth, and let thine heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes ; but know thou, that for all these things, God will bring thee into judgment." Therefore, although in a strange land, "Know thou, the God of thy fathers, and serve him with a perfect heart and willing mind, for the Lord searcheth all hearts, if thou seek him, he will be found of thee, if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off forever." It will not be long before all those around you, who now appear utter strangers, will be well acquainted with your person, name, business, and character ; and you will find that it will be as important to you to possess an interest in their good opinion,

as it was to have the good opinion and esteem of your friends in your own Country.

However, this may be, the time is short, God "hath appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness;" and "we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ," to give an account of ourselves unto him, that every one of us may receive according to the things done in the body whether good or evil. And shall sin separate you forever from those revered and honoured friends, from whom to your mutual grief, you are now divided by the mighty ocean whose billows roll between you?

Shall you be separated forever by that great gulph which eternity cannot remove?

SIXTHLY,—*In your choice of a place of residence, do not forget the Public Worship of God, and the education of your Children.* In a new Country, there are of course many settlements, where these conveniencies and privileges cannot be enjoyed. On this point you ought to reflect very seriously, and ask yourself whether any advantage of a new settlement, can compensate for the want of the privilege of a place of Worship for the whole family, and a school for your children, as well as a Sunday School for their religious instruction; the sacrifice of these is among the greatest sacrifices that we make in leaving our native land; but these sacrifices may be much mitigated and indeed scarcely felt at all, if all the people in a settlement would unite, to maintain the public worship of God, and the educa-

tion of youth, and as much as possible avoid sectarian division.

Wherever there is a settlement of forty families, within a distance of four miles, they could without much difficulty support the ordinances of religion and the education of their youth. Let them construct a plain family house and connect with it a small farm, and assist the man of God whom they may choose, to labour among them in the sacred ministry in its cultivation, and also a convenient school-house which will at first serve the purpose of a church as well, and then let them heartily unite in raising a small sum in cash say forty or fifty pounds in the year in as many families; this together with a small portion of aid from some missionary society, would gradually supply the country abundantly and satisfactorily with the privileges and ordinances of the Gospel. But there are a sufficient number of settlements, at this time, where there are both churches and schools, and in which, on these, as well as on other accounts, settlers from Europe will find themselves much more comfortably situated, than on new lands in the bush or woods where a description of labour is required, to which they have not been accustomed, and many difficulties and privations to be sustained, of which you can form no conception, until you arrive at a situation, from which it would probably be impossible for you to retreat.

SEVENTHLY,—*Be prompt in providing a settlement; and beware of letting the summer slide away without any thing valuable being done. You will*

find many advantages in being comfortably settled before winter. If proper arrangements exist, early settlers, who arrive by the first ships, may by proceeding immediately to their lands, be early enough to raise a crop of potatoes which would prove much to their advantage.

Labourers in that case, would have sufficient time, by labouring for others, to make some provision of money against the ensuing winter when they can, if they think proper, retire to the woods, where they can in a few days, construct a hut or cabin dry and warm, and find plenty of fuel for their comfort, while they serve themselves, by cutting it from land, which they may plant the next spring or summer. It is impossible to convey to strangers an idea of the severity of the winter in this Country, to persons whom it may surprise in negligence, and unprovided to meet it; while at the same time it may be affirmed with truth, that there is no Country where the same space of time can be, all things considered, rendered more pleasant to those who are provided and prepared.

Above all, beware of the conduct of the unthrifty Emigrant who by improvidence in the summer, suffered from the cold in the winter, and who, in attempting to steal wood in the winter in the coldest of the weather, being surprised, fled, and left his great coat in the hands of the person who caught him: so disastrous was his misimprovement of the opportunity which the summer offered him that it deprived him of a comfortable fireside, a warm great coat, a clear conscience, and a good character.

EIGHTHLY,—*Beware of wandering from one place to another and cherishing a roving disposition and a habit of change.* Not a few on their arrival, stay a year or two at Quebec or at Montreal, or at each of them, and then rove to some other place for a season or two, and possibly ramble to the United States until they have just as much left as will pay their expenses back to Canada, or not even that, whither they return with the resolution of the good Shunamite of old.—“I dwell among mine own people :” but although this is an undoubted truth, yet many will read it who will determine to make the trial for themselves before they will be satisfied. But I would remind them that experience keeps a dear school—that a rolling stone gathers no moss, and that repentance comes too late when all is spent. In either of the places of which they have made trial, they might have done well by steady perseverance; but they never studied the saying of that great Economist Doctor Franklin, that “three removes are as bad as a fire.”

Many others, there are, who have spent the greater part of their days as mechanics or tradesmen, and who were scarcely able to tell the difference between wheat and oats, had they seen them growing in the field, who have imagined themselves, not only fit to become farmers, but to brave all the hardships and difficulties of the woods, and have made the experiment, until worn out by fatigue, discouragement and disgust, they have at length with patience and money completely exhausted, made an eternal farewell to the wilderness, and returned with a higher relish than

ever to the counter or the bench, but with the painful regret of having lost much precious time and property.

If you are a labourer or mechanic you will no doubt be desirous of obtaining labour as early as you can ; this I would recommend to you as of great importance—do not allow a single day to pass unimproved.

If you are not able to obtain employment in Quebec or the neighbourhood, you will probably proceed on the way to Montreal, but do not forget that, employment, and not Montreal, is the object of your pursuit, and if you find it before you reach that City, do not fail to embrace it.

Many labourers it is understood are needed in the Eastern Townships, and very probably on the Canal at Chambly ; besides which, if you proceed into the Country, you will find many farmers who will be desirous of employing labourers, in the hay time and harvest, and many through the whole summer. Go to work cheerfully ; you will soon do better. If you do not meet with employment exactly to your mind, yet, embrace the opportunity. Strive to establish a character for honesty, sobriety and industry and you will never have cause to repent of having come to Canada. Fear God and keep his commandments ; and strive to serve your generation, and you will find Canada a fruitful and happy land.

Instead of wandering from place to place, and selling the little that you have, to pay the expense, and then finding yourself destitute of every thing, take care to settle soon and save all that you earn. Be sure to take care of your warm

clothing for the winter. I have, both laughed at and pitied, a poor Irish labourer who has doomed himself to the misery of carrying about, and frying himself in a thick woollen coat that would cost him thirty shillings, in the hottest day of a Canadian Summer, when a neat jacket of some thin material, which would have cost him five shillings, would have made him comfortable, and his warm coat would have been good for the winter, but in consequence of his wearing it in the summer, the winter finds it worn out : this is bad management. Some persons too, when they arrive, find it so hot, that they think that in such a climate the weather can never become cold, and they either sell, or almost give away, or even throw away warm articles of clothing and bedding merely to save themselves the trouble of cleaning and carrying them with them, and have no idea how much they will repent for their imprudence—when the winter returns and finds them in their destitute condition.—Take care of your warm clothes in the summer, and they will take care of you in the winter ; and take care of your light clothes in the winter, and will take care of you in the summer.

NINTHLY,—Remember, that, both you and your children and friends have immortal souls, which must be happy or miserable forever ; and “ what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul, or what will be given in exchange for his soul.” There are vast tracts of land possessed by individuals in Canada ; but if you could call the whole Province your own, and all its inhabitants, increasing from year to year, your

vassals; or could add to these the empire and possession of the earth, your wealth could not redeem the soul of one of your children, nor your own.

Let these precious souls have much of your anxious care. Be concerned that your own soul and the souls of your family be found in the hands of that Saviour who came into the world to seek and to save that which was lost. Be careful you bring none of your old sins into this new world; but if you are conscious that you have been living in sin and the neglect of your soul's salvation, and that of the souls of your family, we beseech you to neglect them no longer, but let the goodness of that God who has brought you in safety across the stormy ocean lead you to repentance. It matters not to what country you flee, you can be safe and happy no where but in Christ. Neither Europe nor America, the old world nor the new, can afford you any real good unless you possess real religion; unless God hath given you repentance unto life, and led you to embrace his dear son, as all your salvation and all your desire.

Think then of the necessities of your precious souls and strive above all things to secure their everlasting salvation.

TENTHLY,—Be diligent in the use of the means of grace.—Be very particular in keeping the sabbath, and be sure that you reverence the sanctuary of the Lord. I trust that I need not attempt to impress upon your minds how necessary and desirable it is to keep one day out of seven specially holy unto the Lord, since it is his own express command,

"Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy."—
 You are well aware that the most awful evils attend its violation, while the most important benefits accompany its faithful observance. How often have criminals on the verge of eternity, when standing on the fatal and ignominious scaffold, confessed, that sabbathbreaking was one of the leading sins that brought them to their shameful end!

As you value the present and everlasting happiness of your own soul and of the souls of your family,—as you prize the welfare of the Country and of posterity, fail not to observe the day of holy rest, to secure the fulfilment of the gracious promises of God to yourselves and your families, in obedience to his commands. "Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil. Neither let the son of the stranger that hath joined himself to the Lord, speak saying, the Lord hath utterly separated me from his people: neither let the Eunuch say behold I am a dry tree: for thus saith the Lord unto Eunuchs that keep my sabbaths and choose the thing that please me and take hold of my Covenant; even unto them will I give in mine house and within my walls a place and a name better than of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that shall not be cut off. Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the Lord to serve him, and to love the name of the Lord to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it and that taketh hold of my covenant; even then will I bring to my Holy

Mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer."—ISAIAH, lvi. 2, 7.

How amply encouraging is this precious promise presented by the Prophet in the name of the Lord Jehovah, to those who keep the day of holy rest, which he hath sanctified, nor is the following, in the fifty-eighth chapter less animating, "If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour him not doing thy own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will cause thee to rise upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."—ISAIAH, lviii. 13, 14.

As the rest of the sabbath is designed not for the purpose of indolence and sloth, but to afford time for the Public Worship of God and for religious instruction, let the sacred hours be devoted to those important uses. Hail the return of the sabbath in the language of the Christian Poet:

"Welcome sweet day of rest,
 "That saw the Lord arise,
 "Welcome to this reviving breast
 "And these rejoicing eyes."

Repair with your family and household to the Sanctuary of the Lord and "forsake not the assembling of yourselves together as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another and so much the more as you see the day approaching."—Here join in prayer and praise with the servant of God and those who keep holy the day and give unto

our God glory and honour, "yea give unto God the glory which is due unto his name."

Listen with solemnity and prayer to the precious word of his grace and encourage the heart of the servant of God by the earnestness with which you endeavour to benefit by his ministry.

Do what you can to give religious instruction to your family and connections, and endeavour to train up your children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." If there be in the place where you settle a well-regulated Sabbath School, send your children; and if there be not, strive if you are able, to accomplish it, to establish one, and if God has given you ability engage yourself in the good work; but do not I beseech you, as I have too often seen done, pretend to teach children in a Sabbath School by precept in the morning, and by example to break the sabbath in the afternoon. Value and promote the Public Worship of God, and the duties of the sabbath, as blessings the most essential to the prosperity of the settlement in which you may take up your abode.

In this day of Bibles and Bible Societies, you will not only take care that the holy book be in your own hands and in those of the various members of your family, but you will strive to make them familiar with its contents by daily reading it in their hearing and encouraging them to study it for their own benefit, and amidst the family circle, kneel in prayer to God morning and evening and thus commend your household to God and to the word of his grace who is able to build you up and to give you an inheritance among all them that are sanctified. "The blessing of the Lord is in the

dwelling of the righteous but his curse is in the house of the wicked."

For your own edification and entertainment, as well as those of your children, you will do well to furnish yourself with some religious Tracts and small sundry-school-library books, and if your lot should be cast in a remote settlement, where you may not be often favoured with Public Worship, these will be especially useful, in which case, you ought not by any means to omit furnishing yourself with such valuable companions for yourself and your children, either at Quebec or at Montreal.

At Quebec you may obtain them from Mr. David Campbell, in the Upper Town; and at Montreal, from Mr. John Rain, at the Depository, in Notre Dame Street, opposite the Court-House, where for a few pounds or even shillings you may furnish yourself with an excellent little family library, which may be of more value to your children than you can now possibly imagine. There you can obtain Bibles and Testaments, to the best advantage, and there too, you may furnish yourself with Catechisms and Hymn books, and also with Sheet Tracts, to ornament your new house with the maxims of good sense, piety and wisdom.

ELEVENTHLY,—If it should please an Allwise Providence to afflict you, or if your family should be visited with sickness, and you find yourself destitute and in need of assistance and relief, do not be ashamed to avail yourselves of the provision made under the good providence of God, by a paternal government and by the kind interference of

private benevolence, and which provision is made for persons precisely in your circumstances.

It is much to be lamented that it does sometimes occur that the most needy, and the most deserving of aid, are the last to apply for it, and would rather suffer any privation, and endure almost any affliction than ask for gratuitous assistance; but while experience compels the managers of public and private benevolence to be circumspect and vigilant, in detecting attempts at fraud and imposition, nothing would grieve them more than to wound the heart of honest feelings, bowed down by the pressure of personal or family affliction: to minister to the relief of such, will on the contrary afford them the greatest pleasure. But if you, on the contrary, are not in circumstances of necessity, beware of the monstrous sin of attempting to impose upon the benevolent, and to take away the portion of the wretched. If you should in that case escape the detection of men, which it is scarcely probable that you would, yet, forget not Him, who not only knows all your outward actions, searcheth the hearts and trieth the reins of the children of men.

Remember his marked displeasure against Ananias and Saphira, recorded in the fourth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, who, in attempting to defraud the treasury of Christian Benevolence, were struck suddenly dead at the feet of the Apostle Peter.

While Divine Providence has furnished you with the means of supplying your own wants and the wants of your family; avoid the black ingratitude of

attempting to deprive the really poor and destitute who are the special objects of his guardian care.

Disdain the meanness of feigning yourself to be a pauper, and of reducing your family to the infamy and disgrace of acquiring the habit of the vagrant mendicant, or the common beggar.

You have now arrived in the Country which perhaps you have long desired, a land, which by your care and industry, under the blessing of God, may become to you a land of peace and plenty : but forget not your Creator, preserver and benefactor, your Saviour and your Final Judge.

But remember that his eye is on all the children of men and scrutinizes all their actions and all their motives. His eye is every where upon the good and obedient for their protection and blessing. His eye is upon the wicked for their punishment in due time : thus David and Peter assure us that " the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous and his ears are open unto their prayers ; but that the face of the Lord is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth." The present and everlasting welfare of yourself and family and of your children's children in this land, will, very much, depend on your remembrance of these things. Would you become a blessing to the Country and its future inhabitants, use every effort to promote piety and benevolence. Will it not be a high gratification to see, hereafter, those institutions of a religious and moral nature, which adorn the land of our Fathers, established for our posterity, freed from the corruption and abuse, which marred their beauty, in that much loved country.

It is the Lord who gives power to get wealth.— Should Providence smile upon your efforts, your talents will be increased, and with it, there will be an encrease of responsibility.—Often think of the Saviour's words as if addressed *individually* to yourself, "occupy till I come." It will not be long before he will send his messenger, the King of terrors, to deliver the awful message; "Give an account of thy stewardship for thou mayest be no longer steward." Let us pursue such a course as to prove that we are lovers of our Country and of mankind, true patriots, and strive to leave behind us a name, that shall honour the land of our birth, and commend to our children, the service of our God and Saviour, that we may give up our account with joy and not with grief.